Macomb County
Fire Chiefs Association

P.O. Box Box 381155 · Clinton Township, Michigan 48038-0077

State of Michigan Representative Tory Rocca
State Capitol Building
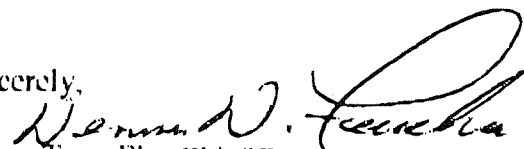Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Representative Rocca,

It has been brought to my attention that you are sponsoring an amendment to House Bill #4357 which would include May 4th as Firefighter Memorial Day in the State of Michigan. I can't tell you how pleased I was to learn that one of our local representatives sees the importance of the service, dedication, and sadly, the lives that the men and women of the fire service of Michigan provide. Every time a firefighter in this state responds to an emergency, no matter how small or large, the potential of losing their life is always present.

Responding to calls, no matter if the firefighter is volunteer, paid-on-call, or career, is one of the greatest dangers firefighters face. Responding to calls is the second largest cause of injury and death to members of the fire service. Once at the scene of an emergency, the ever-present dangers of contracting fatal communicable diseases, being fatally injured on an accident scene, fire scene, or hazardous materials response are always present.

Unfortunately, firefighters are still losing their lives because they are committed to the mission station of every fire department, that being " providing life safety and property conservation to the public we serve." To honor their memory on a special day would provide beneficial emotional support to the families of the firefighters.

The Macomb County Fire Chiefs Association endorses and supports your amendment as proposed. Unfortunately I am unable to attend the hearing on May 3rd. Please enter this letter of support into the official record during the hearing. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lenox Twp. Fire Chief Dennis D. Fouchia
President/Macomb County Fire Chiefs Association